

La Osa Briefing

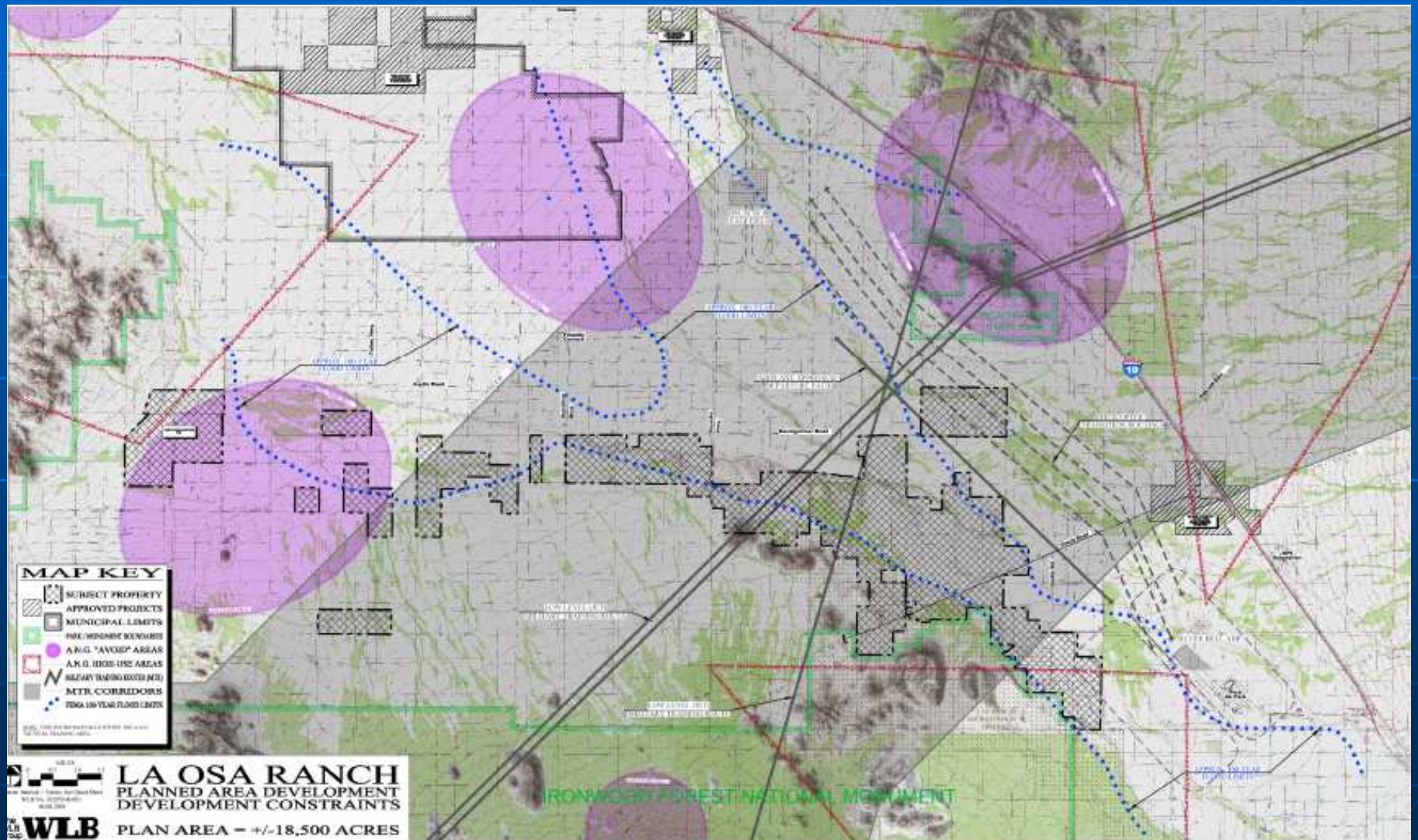


Governor's Military Affairs Commission
April 4, 2006

Goals and Objectives

- Provide the Governor's Military Affairs Commission with an update on the progress, challenges and anticipated solutions of the La Osa Project in Pinal County, Arizona.

Quick Orientation



Brief History

- Initial effort to develop La Osa was denied zoning by Pinal County in March 2004.
- Project received significant opposition from state and locally elected officials, Arizona National Guard, Luke Air Force Base and Tribal Governments.
- ABCDW LLC purchased the project in 2004.

WAATS Overview

- Western Army National Guard Aviation Training Site (WAATS)
- Established in 1986.
- 67 rotary-wing aircraft generated 10,723 flight hours in 2005.
- By June 2006, WAATS will operate 71 rotary-wing aircraft with a significant increase in flight hours.

Rotary-Wing Aircraft

- AH-64A Apache



- AH-64D Longbow



- Terrain and climatic conditions closely resemble the geography and environment of both Iraq and Afghanistan.



Ironwood National Monument



Tora Bora, Afghanistan

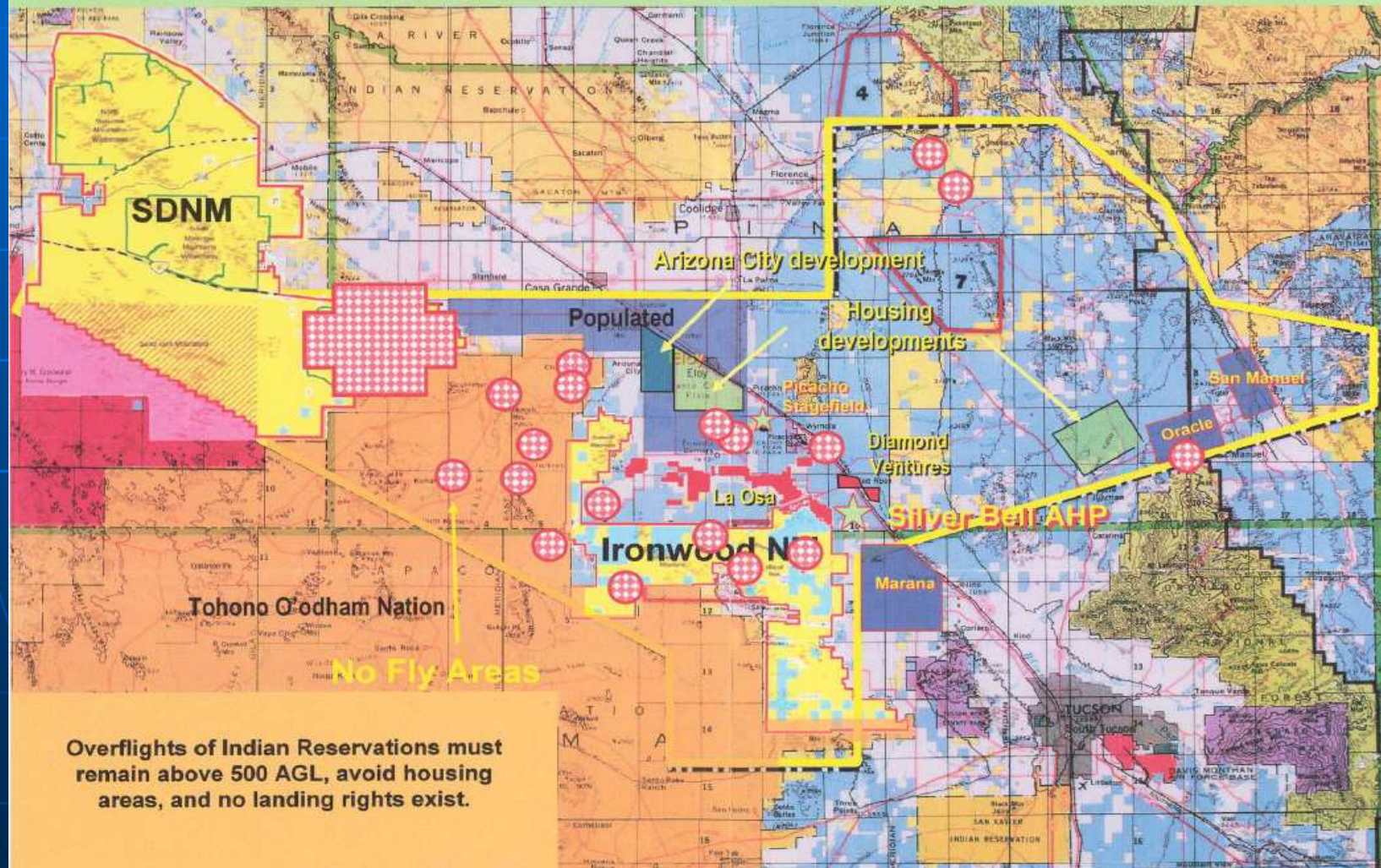
- WAATS is the only National Guard/Reserve training center for Apache and Longbow battalions in the U.S.

Key Concerns

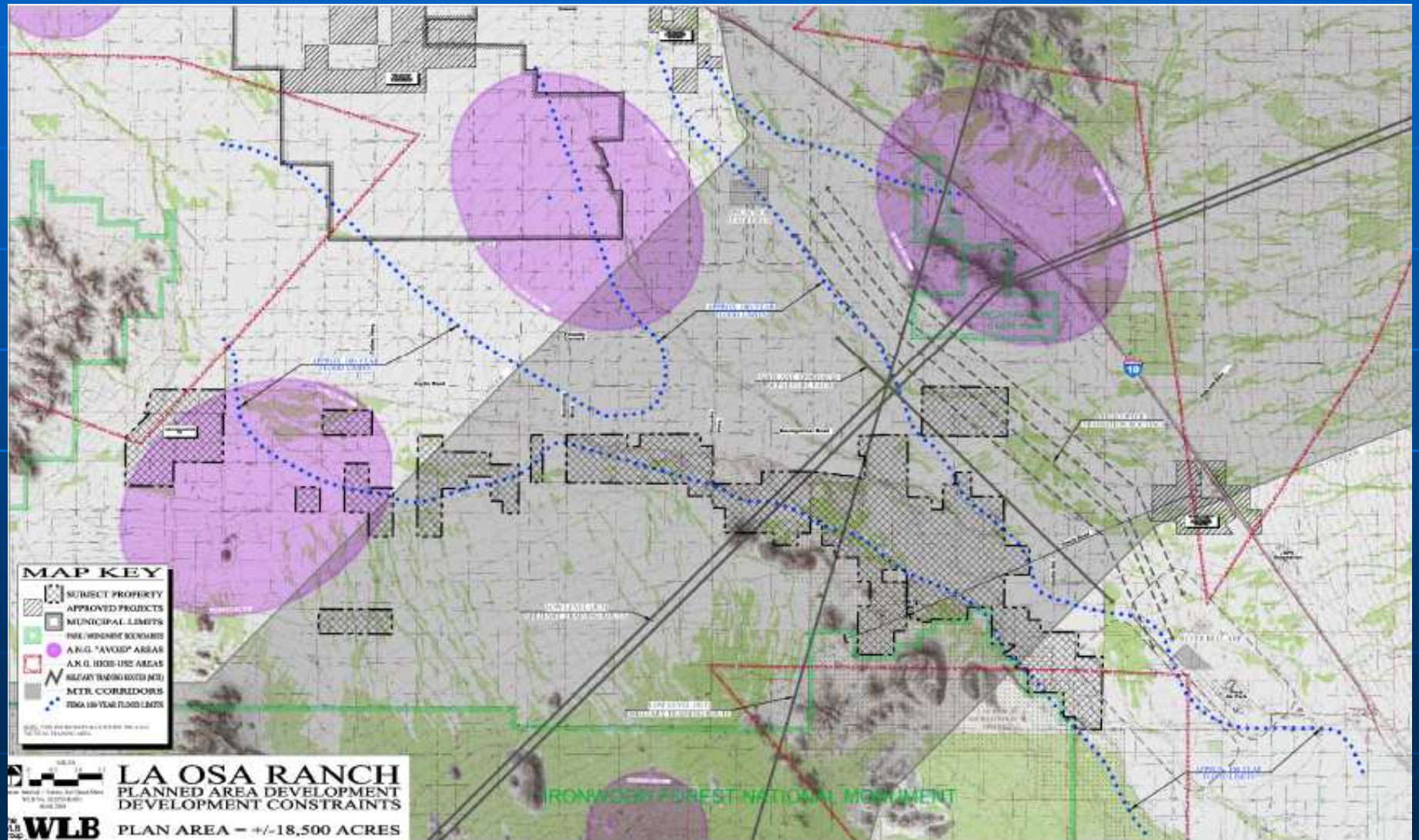
- Encroachment
- Noise Complaints
 - Sound Attenuation
 - Disclosure Requirements
- Light Pollution (impacts on Night Vision Goggles)
 - Dark Skies Ordinance

Encroachment Issues

Encroachment Issues within Silver Bell AHP Training Area



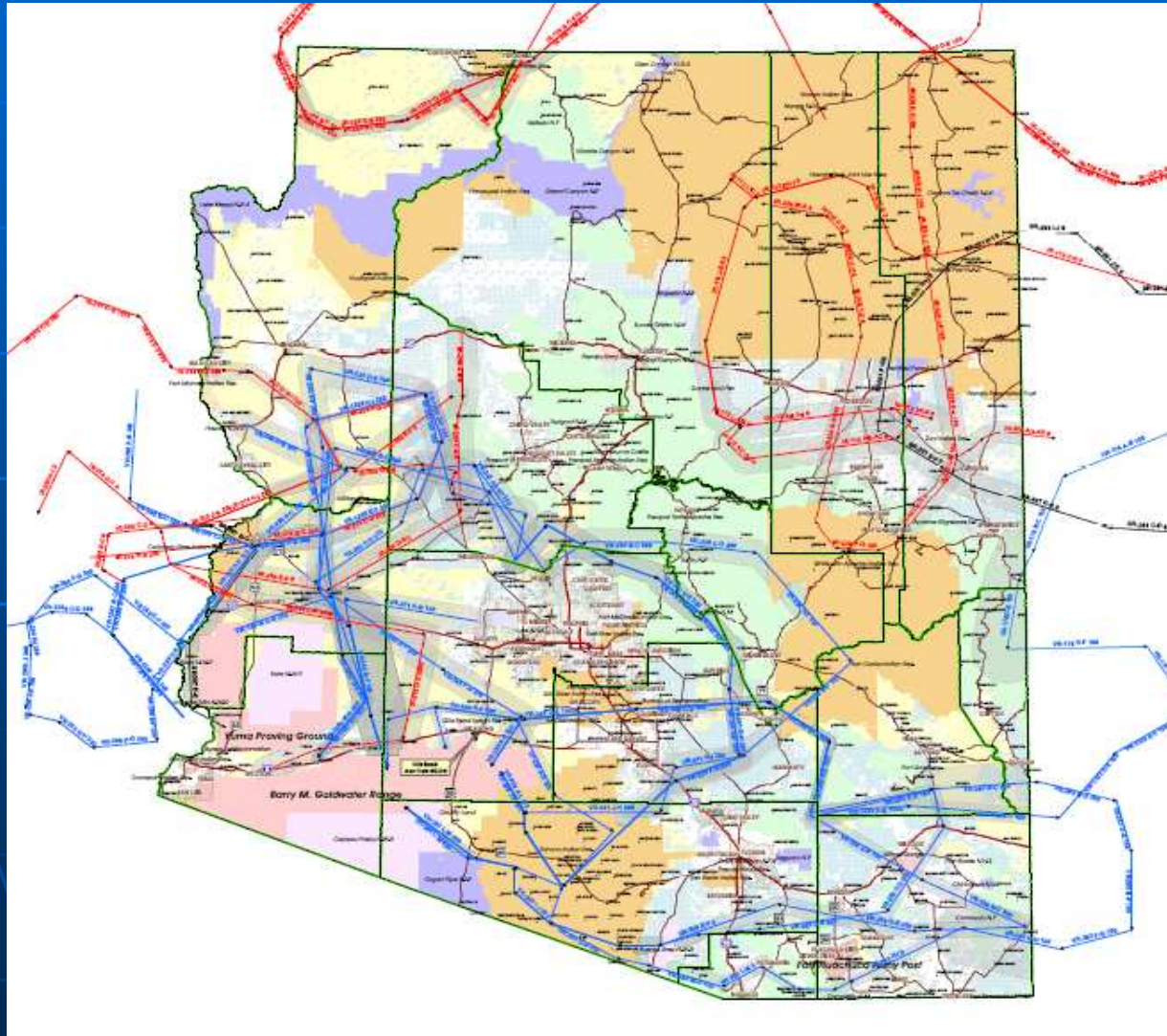
Tactical Training Areas



Tactical Training Areas

- WAATS operates multiple Tactical Training Areas in the immediate vicinity of the La Osa Project.
- Tactical areas not on the Department of Defense's Flight Information Publication for Special Use Airspace in North and South America.

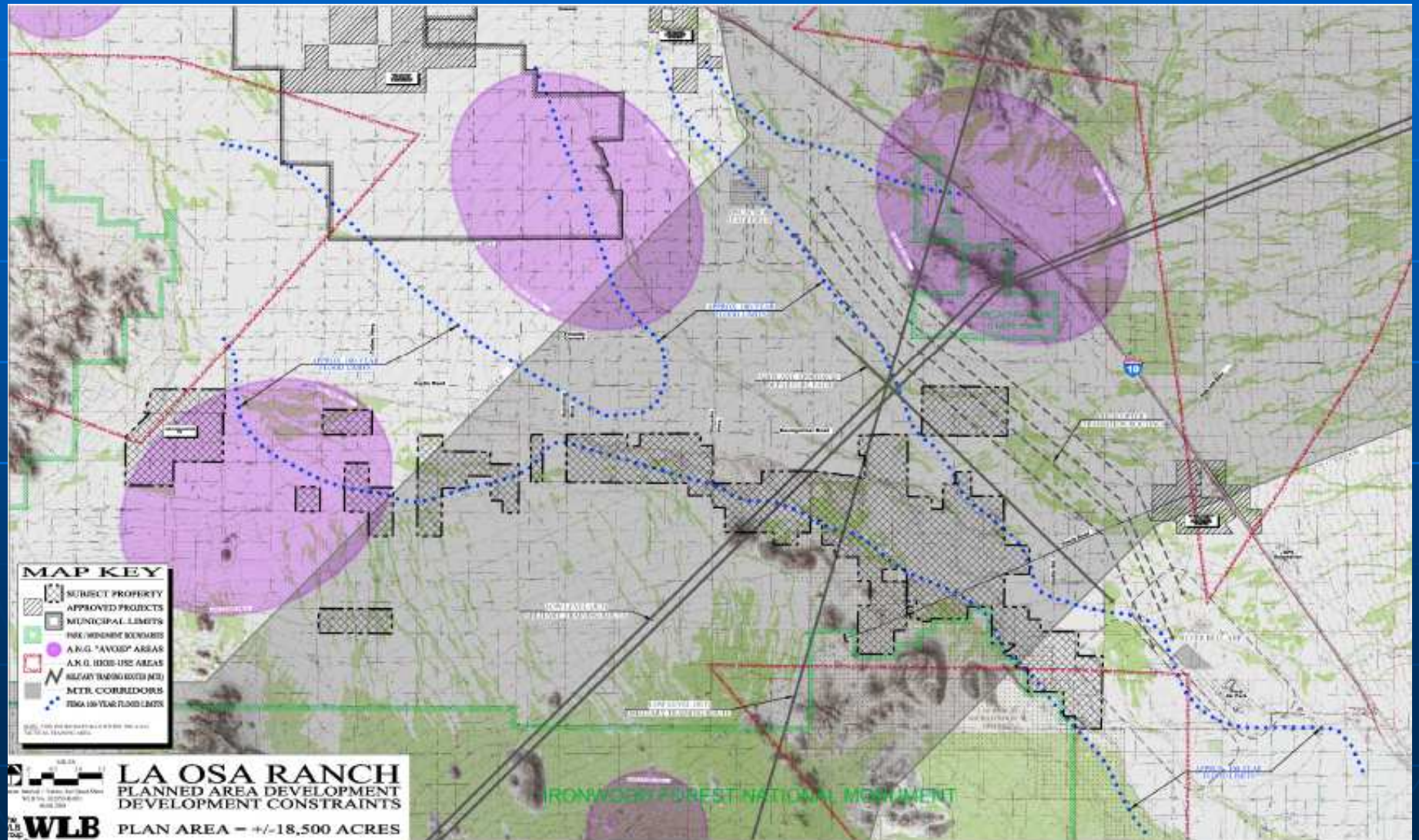
Statewide Military Training Routes



Military Training Routes

- Military Training Routes are used to allow fixed wing aircraft to transit from bases to Special Use Areas.
- MTRs are typically 10 miles wide.
- 3 of the 8 most important MTRs in Arizona are located above La Osa.
- Low level routes are authorized to be as low as 300 feet above ground level (AGL).

MTRs in the Vicinity of the La Osa Project



Luke Air Force Base

- MTRs are used by fixed-wing military aircraft from Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps wings and squadrons.
- Despite wide use by all three services, Luke Air Force Base schedules the airspace.
- Due to existing case law, MTRs cannot be relocated.
- Adjustments to flight operations are being considered within the existing corridors.

Special Operations School

- Department of Defense sponsored jump school providing High Altitude Low Opening (HALO) training.
- The school also provides coursework and training exercises in explosives.

Evergreen Air Center

- Evergreen currently operates the field, providing heavy maintenance and flight testing facilities for large aircraft.
- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) leases space.
- 1,600 acres on long-term lease from Pinal County that can accommodate over 300 aircraft.

Additional Stakeholders

- Tohono O'odham Nation on behalf of multiple Tribal governments and communities.
 - Hohokam burial sites dating back to 750 A.C.E.
- Arizona State Museum
- Army Corps of Engineers/Bureau of Land Management
- Arizona Game and Fish Department
- Pinal County Board of Supervisors and Planning and Zoning Commission
- Governor's Military Affairs Commission

Current Status

- Arizona National Guard Negotiations
 - “Land for Peace” Approach
 - AZNG to provide operational assessment
 - Long-term predictability in exchange for short-term operational adjustments
- Luke Air Force Base
 - Willing to adjust flight operations within existing corridors
- Tohono O’odham Nation
 - Ongoing discussions with tribal staff and the Arizona State Museum

The Road Forward

- Arizona National Guard staff to provide clear guidance on solutions and compromises.
 - Agreements on noise attenuation, dark skies lighting requirements, public disclosure, development south of Sasko Road, no development within Tactical Training Areas.
- Luke Air Force Base will make adjustments to flight operations within the confines of existing MTRs.
- Phase 1 archeological study to be completed and provided to Tohono O'odham Nation for review

Goodman ■ Schwartz

Public Affairs